

PREPARE TO BURN

Students Made Homeless by Fire at
M. A. C. College Housed
Near By.

TOTAL LOSS REACHES
MORE THAN \$270,000

Trustees to Meet at Once to Make
Provision for Contingency.

On account of the destruction wrought by the fire at the Maryland Agricultural College late last night, the officials have issued an order postponing the reopening of the institution until Wednesday next at 1 o'clock. Accommodations for the cadets have been secured in Berwyn, Haverdale, and Hyattsville, and a number of them will be taken care of by members of the faculty and professors who live at College Park in the vicinity of the college.

Prof. Thomas H. Spence, vice president of the college, to-day asked that he be quoted as saying that the Hyattsville fire department undoubtedly saved five of the most important laboratories and lecture halls adjoining the burned buildings. He declared that the engineering building, including the valuable equipment, would certainly have been destroyed except for the heroic action of the Hyattsville firemen. This loss would have been approximately \$200,000.

Prof. Spence said the other members of the faculty appreciate deeply the genuine sympathy and kind offers to house the cadets received from the entire neighborhood. He said that the section and going over the destroyed property, the total loss by the destruction of the new administration building and the "barracks" is estimated at \$270,000. This loss includes the destruction of the barracks, including many rifles, furniture, and students' belongings. Very few of the 300 or more rifles are saved, and all were damaged. There is an insurance of \$2,000 on this property. The large safe secured by the late Dr. Joseph R. Owens when he was treasurer of the college from the First National Bank of Hyattsville, dropped into a large pool of water caused by burst water pipes, and is believed to be intact. The safe contains valuable college records kept by Treasurer Ford. There was no money in the safe.

Last night when the fire was getting the better of the fighters, the students were especially active in rescuing college records, even to the extent of sacrificing their own property. It has been definitely learned that the insurance on the two burned buildings, including contents and furniture, is about \$100,000, and the property is insured in about a dozen companies.

Bound Instruments Gone.

The bound instruments recently purchased by the college authorities at an aggregate cost of about \$2,000 were all destroyed, only two pieces being saved. The instruments were stored in the top story of the "barracks," and when it was seen that this building was doomed it was too late to get the material out. The college and state authorities have already begun preparations for the erection of new dormitories at the college to replace those destroyed. Mr. Charles H. Stanley, vice president of the college, said that the college authorities have already begun preparations for the erection of new dormitories at the college to replace those destroyed. Mr. Stanley, vice president of the college, said that the college authorities have already begun preparations for the erection of new dormitories at the college to replace those destroyed.

Chairman Stanley Has Called a Meeting

of the executive committee for Monday morning at 11 o'clock at the Ritz Hotel in Baltimore to discuss the matter, and Gov. Goldsborough, as chairman of the board of trustees, has called a meeting of the entire board for Tuesday at the same place and hour. At this latter meeting a report of the conflagration will be made by the executive committee, which will also make recommendations as to what steps to pursue to make good the damage. W. D. M. Thomas, representing the firm of Turner & Thomas, of Baltimore, insurance agents, was at the college to-day and asserted that his people were ready to draw for \$25,000 the amount of insurance placed on the buildings, as soon as the money was needed. There is no doubt that the money needed to erect new buildings will be forthcoming, especially in view of the fact that the State will make the money good so soon as the legislature meets—that is, early in January, 1913.

ENCOURAGE EARLY CLOSING OF STORES

Circulars Distributed Showing Advantages to Be Gained by Early Shopping.

Thousands of circulars, setting forth the reasons why shoppers should do their Christmas buying early, were distributed at the public buildings yesterday by thirty young women, members of the Consumers' League. The Retail Merchants' Association is also carrying on a campaign for early shopping in the interests of the army of salespeople, to whom the Christmas holidays mean hours of overtime work.

On the cards sent to the stores for distribution by the association it is explained that the shoppers will be equally benefited by early buying, in that they will have a more varied choice of goods before the stock is picked over; that the clerks, wrappers, and delivery people will be able to derive some good from the holiday, and that the street car companies will be saved handling cumbersome crowds if the Christmas purchases are made early in the season.

The merchants are fully in sympathy with the campaign, and have shown their approval by promising to keep open only eight nights of the holidays. This is a considerable concession compared with times past. The stores will be opened at night December 18, and will remain open evenings through to December 24.

Lectures at Y. M. C. A.

W. H. Morris, metropolitan secretary of the Y. M. C. A. of Baltimore, has been invited to come to Washington for an address to the men of the Northeast and Southeast sections of this city. Mr. Morris will speak at the Second Baptist Church this afternoon. A good musical programme has been arranged, which includes part of the new orchestra, and Mr. Earl Carbaugh as baritone soloist. Rev. Hinson Hallett will be the presiding officer at this meeting for men.

Largest Morning Circulation.

TO ANNOUNCE COMMITTEES.

E. H. Droop to Give Out Board of Trade List to-morrow.

Standing committee appointments in the Washington Board of Trade will be announced by President E. H. Droop at a meeting of the Board's directors at the New Willard Hotel, at 4:30 o'clock Monday afternoon.

PACKER IN STORE TAKES OWN LIFE

Philip H. Specht Drinks Carbolic Acid—Found by His Mother.

For a cause which has not yet been learned, Philip H. Specht, fifty-one years old, a packer for a department store, committed suicide by swallowing carbolic acid at his home, 5407 Eighth Street Northwest, yesterday afternoon.

Specht returned to his home shortly before noon, saying he was slightly ill and went to his room, asking that he not be disturbed. His mother believed he intended to sleep and told Specht's two daughters not to awaken him. One of the children, however, crept to the room to peep in at her father.

The child heard a groan. She ran to her grandmother and said: "Papa's very sick. Grandma." Mrs. Specht went to the room and knocked. There was no answer. She opened the door and found the man lying on the bed.

On the floor lay a bottle which had contained carbolic acid, which Mrs. Specht had used for disinfecting. Specht had stuffed the end of a towel in his mouth.

Specht had been a widower for three years, and it is said had never been able to reconcile himself to the loss of his wife. Police of the Tenth precinct and Coroner Nevitt made an investigation, after which a certificate of death in accordance with the facts was issued.

Seek to Raise Funds.

In the interest of the campaign being made by the alumni and students of Howard University to raise a fund of \$10,000 for a new gymnasium, several ministers of Washington have offered to hold open services to inform their congregations of the movement. At one of these services the Rev. S. M. Newman, president of Howard University, will speak. The gymnasium committee now has pledges of about \$7,500.

Funeral Services to Be Held To-morrow at First Congregational Church.

Funeral services for Alvin M. Lothrop, aged sixty-five, one of Washington's most successful merchants, who died at 6 o'clock yesterday morning at his home, 2103 Connecticut Avenue Northwest, from a stroke of apoplexy, will be held at the First Congregational Church.

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AGED MERCHANT DIES SUDDENLY

Alvin M. Lothrop, of Woodward & Lothrop, Stricken with Apoplexy.

BUSINESS CAREER STARTS IN NEW ENGLAND

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In 1872 they started a dry goods store in Chelsea, a suburb of Boston. They made it grow into the largest store in Boston's suburbs, and in six years had found that there was no more room for growth there. They sought out new fields, traveling through various States in their quest of a site for another and larger business. They found their field in Washington in 1888.

Woodward and Lothrop rented a store at 706 Market Space, and when their business outgrew it they moved up Pennsylvania Avenue to a place between Ninth and Tenth Streets. When a further increase of business impelled them to move again, they went to Eleventh and F Streets Northwest, where Calderon Carille erected a building for them. Since they moved there the "Boston Store," as Woodward & Lothrop's has always been called in Washington, has gradually occupied more and more space until it now takes all of that block between Tenth and Eleventh and F and G Streets Northwest, except one store.

Mr. Lothrop's business career was a clerk in a dry goods store in the little town in which he was born. As he gathered experience, his ambition grew, and he moved into Boston and clerked in a store there. Samuel W. Woodward, who has been Mr. Lothrop's partner for nearly forty years, was a clerk in the same store, and the two young men became friends.

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attention since 1880: W. W. Everett, second vice president; G. M. Everett, secretary; Max Fisher, treasurer, and Gus Louis, J. N. Edwards and W. B. Mack. Mr. Lothrop's death was a distinct shock to the people of Washington, to whom he was well-known not only as one of the city's most successful merchants, but as a man of broad interests. He had been ill for about two years, and had been confined to his home for several weeks, but although he had previously suffered a stroke of apoplexy, none of his family had suspected that his life was near its end.

With Mr. Lothrop when he died were his daughter, Mrs. N. H. Luttrell, and her husband, and his two brothers, Frank B. Lothrop and Emory D. Lothrop, both of whom live at South Acton, Mass., where Mr. Lothrop was born sixty-five years ago. When Mr. Lothrop was attacked his daughter summoned Dr. Thomas A. Claylor, his attending physician, but Mr. Lothrop had died when Dr. Claylor reached the house.

Business Career.

The romance of business brightened the life story of the merchant who died yesterday. Mr. Lothrop started his career as a clerk in a dry goods store in the little town in which he was born. As he gathered experience, his ambition grew, and he moved into Boston and clerked in a store there. Samuel W. Woodward, who has been Mr. Lothrop's partner for nearly forty years, was a clerk in the same store, and the two young men became friends.

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